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THE NEGRO FARMER

Vol. 2, No. 13 Tuskegee Institute, Alabama July 17, 1915

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Published Bi-Weekly in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; especially devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World to be Circulated Among 2,000,000 Black Farmers

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THE NEGRO FARMER

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ISAAC FISHER....Editor and Business Mgr.

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SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1915

MEMBER NATIONAL NEGRO PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Editor's Page

TOO BUSY

On the seventh of May, 1915, there was flashed to the nations of the world the awful news that the good ship Lusitania had sunk off the Old Head of Kinsdale, Ireland, carrying to uncharted graves in the sullen deep great numbers of human beings, passengers thereon. In the number were Elbert and Alice Hubbard—husband and wife.

Elbert Hubbard was pretty well known in this country as the editor of the Philistine and the Fra; the founder of the Roycrofters at East Aurora, New York; and as a writer and lecturer in a class by himself—but it is not my purpose to write his biography. It is enough to make it clear, at this point, that Hubbard was a famous man, whose writings and views have somewhat influenced his day.

Trying to Stifle Immortality

I wondered how the news of his death would be received in that very unique community which he had founded and of which he was life and soul; and I bought the Philistine and the Fra to see what would be said about the passing of Elbert Hubbard. The Fra, after paying a very becoming meed of praise to Hubbard, said this:

"We show no sign of mourning. We are a busy people and have our work to do. (The bold face type is the writer's) Elbert Hubbard would have us go on."

One cannot make criticism of these words quoted without seeming to be guilty of indelicacy and shockingly bad taste; because Elbert Hubbard belonged in part to those loved ones who survived him—he is their dead and they are the best judges of what would best please him and Alice Hubbard after they "crossed the bar" to see their "Pilot, face to face."

But there are times when the good of the race is higher than the wishes of individuals, living or dead; and when no one should, either by deeds of omission or commission, help to stifle the immortality of a useful life.

Useful Souls Belong to the World

I said that Elbert Hubbard belonged to his dear ones who survived him. In a sense, he did; but in so far as he was a man who had done useful things, said helpful words, cheered the discouraged, made the inefficient efficient—in so far as he had made the burdens of the living any easier, he belongs to humanity and the good he has done deserves immortality; and all who survive him are under obligations to the fitness of things to omit no ceremony, rite or observance which helps to render deathless the virtues of those who have lived useful lives.

What Is Our Work?

We must not concede that we can ever be too busy to turn aside from the daily tasks to show the world that here is a life, here is a word, here is a thought that deserves to live and not die. There is no work on earth higher than this; and if mankind are accustomed to having their attention drawn to these things by tears, by sorrowful countenances, by monuments of stone and brass, by memorials of buildings and institutions, it is our duty to so call attention to the things which ought not to to die, provided we do no harm by our actions.

It is important that I preach my next sermon; that you build the house on which you are engaged; that he assemble the school at nine o'clock; that the new book be written; that the horses be shod; that the garment be drafted and made; that the new experiment in government be tried; that the wheat be put into the ground when necessary. But it is vastly more important to the world that all of us turn from these tasks whenever necessary and by familiar custom or rite take our stand by a departed life, by a great picture, by a burning speech, by a God-spoken truth, by a noble conception in marble and brass, and say to weary, oft-times discouraged men and women: "Here is something that deserves to be remembered for ever; here is that which supports the world; here is that which gives rest to the weary and heavy laden."

"This Do In Remembrance of Me"

The world's greatest deeds have been done with the hope that men would pause and pay suitable honors to them. I cannot put out of my mind the greatest Character in the world's history, sitting in a little room surrounded by a faithful band of disciples, with sadness gripping every heart. To these He gave broken bread and sups of wine and said: "This do in remembrance of Me." King of Immortality, though He was, Jesus Christ was not too great to desire to be remembered after His death.

"I hope that my country will do me justice," were the last words of Sir John Moore, one of Great Britain's most distinguished generals as he lay mortally wounded on alien soil where he had gone to fight against the doughty Napoleon, and saw that the former must be buried almost as one unknown to fame.

"This do in remembrance of Me," is the universal but unspoken plea of dying man to those who follow. No one wishes to be forgotten here or hereafter; and if persons have lived well, it is not best to permit them to be forgotten.

Leading to Sublime Living

Every monument reared to a noble soul, every day set apart to honor earth's truly great, every speech and eulogy pronounced on the life of a useful man or woman lead to sublime living; for they say to me, to you, to my son and daughter and to yours: "If your life is lived like these lives we celebrate, you too will be remembered when your body is turning to dust." This is the meaning of monuments, this is the message of many ancient temples, this is the intrepretation of great paintings, this is why we write the stories of heroes, that from generation to generation the young may learn and be inspired.

"The Last Full Measure of Devotion"

Too busy to mourn for the helpful ones gone? God forbid! Thinking so intently of the work of our hands and of the hour that we can show no signs of loneliness that a strong man has gone? Forbid it, Almighty God. Must the bell be rung for work at five o'clock in the morning just as if the good man had not died tonight? May I not remain out of the foundry long enough tomorrow to say, while the tears pour down my face, "A prince and a great man has fallen this day? * * *" Will the fields lie fallow and the crops ruin if I pause a while and pay due honors to the worthy dead? Nay, verily! Go, run quickly and early to the sepulchre of the dead with the sweet spices of your appreciative words and your praise and anoint your departed Lord. Leave the plow for the day, omit shingling the roof this morning, call the children from school, postpone the business engagement a little while, bow your heads and pay grateful tribute to those who have made their lives sublime; else, with the flight of the years there will come a time when no one will strive to be immortal, because the chill of indifference caused by too much business will paralyze all personal endeavor.

—ISAAC FISHER.

THANKS, AND A CORRECTION TO THE FLORIDA MESSENGER

The following is from an editorial of the *Florida Messenger*

"The colored reading public is indebted to Editor Isaac Fisher of The Negro Farmer at Tuskegee Institute, for that which we regard as the sanest and clearest views on the recent decision of Justice White of the Supreme Court regarding the "grandfather clause" law, that we have seen in print. Although we must confess that we do not quite agree with Mr. Fisher when he says that the decision does not mean that the South was wrong in disfranchising Negroes. If the decision of the Supreme Justice, which was upheld by the Supreme Court, means anything at all, it means exactly that. Nothing more nor less than that. The editor's article has many other features, however, that are praiseworthy, and we shall not hesitate to acknowledge them. The article is especially valuable because it explains what the decision does not mean as well as what it does mean Many of us are apt to think it means much more to us than it does. But to say the least, it is the longest and the straightest leap in the direction which leads towards the government's proper attitude as regards the rights of its Negro citizens that has ever been made in the history of our commonwealth. The article pays Justice White a beautiful tribute, declaring that the decision handed down by him had placed him in the class "of the immortals unafraid." That Chief Justice White, in whose opinion the 'grandfather clause' is unconstitutional and therefore contrary to the supreme law of the land is a Southern white man, a democrat and a Confederate soldier, is a rather healthy indication that conditions in the south are growing better and it is proof of the fact that the best type of Southern white men are ever ready to recognize the true merits of the race and will give the Negro justice."

We thank the editor of the above paper very heartily for his kind words; at the same time we call his atten tion to the fact that the editor of The Negro Farmer did not say that "the decision does not mean that the South was wrong in disfranchising Negroes." The exact words were: "The Supreme Court has not said by its decision that the South is wrong in disfranchising Negroes. It simply said that it must not be done contrary to 'the supreme law of the land.'"

Our esteemed friend of the Messenger will see that we were not giving our own opinions, but were calling attention to what the Supreme Court did not say.

THE COUNTRY CHURCH

It is the law of rural economics that the best land of any community tends, in the long run, to pass into the hands of the best farmers. The reason is that they cannot afford to pay more for the land, either in the form of a purchase price or in the form of rent, than the poorer farmer. The farmer who can make 100 busels of corn grow where others can make only 50 can pay more for the land. In the long run he and others like him will outbid the poorer farmers and gradually possess the land. Now, if religious

people turn out to be better farmers than irreligious people, then religion will eventually come into possession of the land. But if, on the other hand, irreligious people should turn out to be the better farmers, then irreligious people will eventually possess the land and the country churches will die a natural death.

Again, it is the experience of organizers of rural interests in every country that the great obstacle is the lack of a neighborhood spirit and mutual good will. Wherever this spirit exists organization is easy. Wherever it is lacking and mutual suspicion and antipathy exist in its stead, there organization is difficult. In this connection one may be justified in asking: If the church does not promote neighborly feeling and mutual good will, what does it exist for?

One of the impressive things about rural organizations of such countries as Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Germany, and Denmark is the active part which the local priest or parson has played. It is quite the common thing to find that the priest or parson is the president of the co-operative society, while the schoolmaster is its secretary and business manager. This, however, is partly due to the fact that these two men are frequently the only educated men and generally the best educated men in the community. Such is seldom the case in this country. In any prosperous farming community it will frequently, if not generally, be found that there are farmers who are beter educated than the priest, parson, or school teacher, besides having much more practical business experience. Where this is true it is better, of course, to leave the practical administration of affairs to these farmers. Nevertheless, the inspirational work of the church might well be directed toward the creation of such a neighborly spirit and mutual good will as would enable the whole community to work together easily and amicably. And in those communities where the country preacher is the best educated man and where he has or can obtain information as to methods of organization, there can be no objection to his assuming leadership in the organization of the community.

GOOD TASTE SAVES LABOR AND EXPENSE IN PLANTING THE HOME GROUNDS

A great many persons who are desirous of having beautiful home grounds make the mistake of over-doing in the matter of planting shrubbery and trees. A few trees carefully selected and properly placed about the home grounds are much more to be desired than the indiscriminate planting so often resorted to in both town and country.

Many people do not realize that quality and taste can be displayed in efforts at landscape gardening as well as in the decoration of the interior of the home or in the selection of personal attire. The man who plants his front yard to trees, using the all-over, rows-in-two-directions plan, has taken steps to secure what will prove to be a gaudy, cheap effect as his trees mature. At the same time he will have used more trees, costing a greater outlay in money and labor than if he had tastily arranged them in clumps and groups about his walk and along the sides or in the corners of his yard. By the latter plan he will reserve for those occupying the house, pleasing vistas of the road or street and proper expanses of green sward for appropriately set clumps of shrubbery or beds of flowers. He will have also secured for the passing public a much more pleasing view of his house and grounds and both will appear much more pretentious than if the grounds were improperly laid out.

It is not the aim of the writer to give the impression that one can secure quality in home grounds merely by proper placing of what is planted because he may so select improper species as to size at maturity, color of foiliage, flowers, etc., as to still defeat his efforts in this direction. A knowledge of what plants may do well in the sun, what ones in the shade, which plants will stand the driving wind, and which ones should have the protection of others, or of buildings, should be had in order that complete success may be attained. A little careful study of properly planted grounds or bulletins giving proper methods will save those so doing money and effort and approach ideals which are much more likely to be realized as the planting plan approaches maturity.—C. H. Shattuck, Professor of Forestry, in Idaho Agricultural News Letter.

HOMEMADE VINEGAR

My vinegar keg is one of my pet economies. Four years ago I purchased an ordinary whiskey keg for thirty-five cents. I then bought six quarts of the best cider vinegar, poured it into the keg and placed it back of the range. Whenever I use the contents of a fruit jar or jelly glass, preserves, etc., I rinse the dish with a little water and throw it into the keg. Everything cleanly in the way of sweets or fruit juices are invaluable in making the vnegar Canning season is a great help in filling the keg. I boil all cores and skins of fruits, and what I don't need for jelly I throw into the keg. In this way I can use up quantities of apples that would go to waste otherwise.

During canning and pickling time, one uses considerable vinegar. My keg is always full as I keep making all the time. In the last four years all the vinegar I have bought was the six quarts I used for a starter, and I have never lost a jar of apple butter, chow-chow, pickles, etc., that was prepared with my homemade vinegar.*M. G. S., Successful Farming.*

FEED THE YOUNG FOAL

Are you giving that young foal the proper care? To become a strong, sound horse when matured the foal must be well nourished and given every advantage possible.

At this time of the year mares and colts are allowed to spend at least a part of the time in the pasture. The foal should be taught to eat grain very early. By placing the feed box from which the dam eats her grain low, the foal, at about two months of age, will begin nibbling with the mother and will soon acquire a taste for the grain.

A pen built in one corner of the field made high enough to keep the mare out and allow the colt to pass under will make it possible to feed the foal grain with very little difficulty. Allow the mare in the enclosure with the foal for a few times, and it will soon learn to go in itself. Keep a liberal supply of grain, preferably oats and bran, and perhaps some cracked corn, in the feed box. To induce the dam to loiter about with the colt, have the pen near a shade tree or the salt box.

By weaning time the foal will have become thoroughly accustomed to eating grain and will wean very easily, besides being in better condition as a result of this additional feed.—*C. S. Anderson, Colorado Agricultural College.—News Notes, Colorado Agricultural College.*

THE MAIN SECRET OF BEE-KEEPING

Farmers don't as a rule keep many hives of bees. As a rule they don't, but they should all keep some; keep them because there is a great amount of bee pasture going to waste every year; keep them in order to interest their children in nature study; keep them mainly in order to furnish the family with at least one pure sweet gathered from nature itself, for honey is the nectar of flowers, made by the Almighty, the water in it evaporated, and the honey then sealed up for safe keeping by the bees.

The main secret of successful bee-keeping, whether on the farm or in the apiary of the specialist, is: Keep your hives strong. Have them strong in the fall, with plenty of food, so that the queen may begin to lay in February, and with bees enough to furnish the heat necessary for the development of the larvae. If this is done, there will be an abundance of workers when the honey season opens, and success will follow; otherwise failure. Worms don't often bother the strong hive; the bee moth does not dare come too near.

If you keep bees at all, by all means keep the Italian, because they are clean housekepers and don't allow stuff to lie around nearby, in which the bee moth may lay her eggs. Besides, they are more gentle to handle, not so nervous and fussy as the little black bees which you find generally in the woods. If foul brood comes in, send for a bee inspector, of course, and do what he tells you to do. But the stronger you keep your hive, the less you need fear foul brood. We don't know anything about it personally, for we never had it among our own bees; but this is what the inspectors tell us.

If you want to keep your hive strong, you must see that you have a good queen. If the hive dwindles find out why —whether it is worms, foul brood, or a queen that is not active and vigorous. If they are queenless, get another queen for your hive will begin to dwindle at once. If you can't get another, unite that hive with another weak hive, and thus have one good, strong hive instead of two weak ones.

Come to think of it, the philosophy of the bee hive is not much different from the philosophy of farming. It is farming with plenty of acres, plenty of working capital and plenty of help, that succeeds. The farmer with too small an acreage for his style of farming, with little working capital and no help, generally fails to make more than a living, or at least farms at a great disadvantage It is usually the man of abundant resources physically or mentally that succeeds in the work of life. For in the beehive, on the farm and in life, "to him that hath shall be given, and to him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath." It is the weak bee-hive that is attacked by worms, by foul brood, by ants, by mice, by robbers.

Discouraging, you say In one sense, yes; in another sense, no. It is a whip and spur which most of us need to force us to put forth our best efforts; and while we may not become rich, we may have in our sphere the best that life can give. In our sphere, we say; and applying this to human life, there are spheres larger and smaller. Applying this to the beehive, the hive that is small may be as strong comparatively as the big strong hive. Even if small in numbers, it is not subject to thieves and robbers, because it can protect itself. It is not the absolute number of bees, nor the absolute amount of money; but the numbers and the amount of capital that are necessary for us to fulfill our destiny.

These words of Jesus, "Unto him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not shall be taken away that which he hath," discouraging as they may seem to be, are as true in business as they are in religion. For His sayings have a far wider reach than those who look upon them as merely religions always apprehend; but this is getting a long ways from the beehive. Sometimes we can't help philosophizing.—*Wallace's Farmer.*

BEST METHODS IN SYRUP MAKING

In order to get the most syrup from cane, it is necessary to have the rolls so close together that all the juice will be extracted. Those operated by horse power can never be the most satisfactory, especially when a large amount of cane is to be ground, says A. P. Spencer in a recent bulletin issued by the Florida station. A standard steam cane mill will get about 75 per cent of the weight of the cane in juice, which is a very large proportion of the juice. About 20 gallons of syrup can be made from a ton of can, that is, when the cane is well matured.

In order to make a good quality of syrup, the juice should be strained several times before it goes into the evaporating pans. It is wise to let it first pass through a wire screen, which removes all the coarser particles; then through a coarse cloth strainer, and then through coarse muslin. Then, just before it goes into the receiving bank, it should be run through a woolen blanket, which catches the fine particles or sediment. These strainers should be kept clean, changing them frequently, which will prevent clogging and allow the juice to pass freely through them.

It is pereferable that the exaporating pans be equipped with steam soils for evaporation, but the smaller outfits generally have the pans set just over the firebox. The receiving tank should be large enough to hold a full run in the evaporating pans. The juice should boil up quickly in the first evaporating pan, which causes the sediment and scum to rise to the top, where it can be easily skimmed off before the juice begins to thicken.

As soon as the juice has been boiled to the desired density, it should be put into the barrel or other receptais almost necessary in determining just when the syrup is at the desired density. Simply take out a small amount of the syrup and insert the instrument, and when it sinks to 33 or 34 degrees, the syrup has been sufficiently boiled. Care should be taken that all the vessels in which the syrup is put are thoroughly sterilized, which will prevent fermentation. It is almost impossible to properly sterilize barrels at a small syrup making plant, and therefore, it is advisable to use syrup cans or bottles, which if properly sterilized, will keep the syrup in good condition for an almost indefinite time.—*Southern Farmer.*

SOUR MILK FOR YOUNG CHICKENS

Sour milk can be utilized in one of the best possible ways by feeding it to growing chickens. When the time arrives to prepare the cockerels for market, a proper mixture of cracked corn and sour skimmed milk or butter-milk makes one of the best and most appetizing rations for the young birds. For

best results the corn should be soaked several hours in the milk. The corn may be put in pails and the milk poured on until the top of the corn is submerged three or four inches. When this has been absorbed more milk should be added at intervals until the mixture is wanted for feeding. A liberal supply of this ration, given in clean feeding vessels, will keep the young chicks growing rapidly and insure their being plump and in excellent condition for market.—*W. F. P., Successful Farming.*

ONION BLIGHT OR MILDEW

In a few of the truck growing regions of the State this disease has been rather serious. It makes its appearance the latter part of June or first part of July. Damp weather or excessive irrigation favors its development. It is possible to recognize the disease in its very early stages. Early in the morning when there is moisture on the leaves, infected leaves have a peculiar, furry, violet tinge. Later on the leaves become covered with a white mildew-like growth and finally collapse. As a result of the leaf infection, the onion bulbs do not reach their proper size. If there is a serious outbreak of the disease it will pay to spray them with Bordeaux mixture. This should be applied frequently until the disease is checked. Onion blight is carried over the winter on the dead onion leaves. If the disease has been prevalent in a patch, care should be taken to rake and burn all the tops. In case the disease has been serious for several successive years, it may be well to practice crop rotation, not going back to onions until three or more years.—*W. W. Robbins, Colorado Agricultural College News Notes.*

STONY SOILS AND ORCHARDS

A stony loam is often recommended as a desirable fruit soil, but stones are advantageous only in that they may help a soil that is too heavy or clayey or too impervious, by making it somewhat more pervious to water. The fact that a soil is stony does not necessarily imply that it is productive. If apples are to be grown with profit, and competition is keen, the soil must be productive or at least capable of being brought to a productive state and so maintained. Much of the current belief that "stony" soils possess some peculiar advantage for orchard fruits has undoubtedly arisen from the success of many orchards located on stony hills. —Weekly News Letter, United States Department of Agriculture.

SUMMER TILLAGE AS A LABOR SAVER

The principal criticism associated with summer tillage is that it involves a large amount of extra labor. According to Mr. Philip Held, who is a successful farmer in Logan County, this criticism is more apparent than real. Concession is made that large amounts of labor are associated with summer tillage, but during the three years following deep summer tillage, the ground is in such condition that comparatively little labor is needed for successful production of crops. No plowing is done at any time until the land is plowed again for the next summer tillage. Just as soon as the first crop grown on the summer tilled land has been harvested, the field is disked. The object of the disking is to destroy weeds, reduce losses from evaporation, and to leave the land in suitable tilth to receive the winter rains and snows.

In the early spring, the land is disked again and is planted to some kind of cultivated crop, usually corn. Only a few cultivations are needed to keep the weeds down. After the removal of the cultivated crop, no cultural operations are performed until the following spring, when the land is disked and seeded to a small grain crop.—*James D. Marshall, Colorado, Agricultural College.*

A FEW FUNDAMENTAL REASONS

By J. E. Dodge, Hood Farms, Lowell, Mass.

There's a few fundamental reasons why farmers and feeders should have registered Berkshires.

First—Their easy feeding, quick growing qualities.

Second—Berkshire sows are prolific, good mothers and the best milkers.

Third—Hardiness; they adapt themselves very quickly to any climate or condition.

Fourth—Their grazing qualities are unsurpassed.

Fifth—They fatten at any age and grow to a very large size when mature.

Sixth—Their meat is the finest made from any breed. Butchers will pay a premium to get Berkshire barrows.

Seventh—Berkshires are very docile, stay where put, and are easy to handle.

Eighth—Farmers who have two breeds save only Berkshire meat for their own table.

Ninth—The all around qualities of the Berkshires are unsurpassed; they are the breed the other fellows have been trying to equal.

Tenth—No other breed will give the returns in dollars and cents.—*The Berkshire World.*

APPRECIATIVE WORDS

Braxton, Miss., June 29, 1915.

Mr. Isaac Fisher, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama:

Dear Sir: You will please find enclosed my check for renewal of my subscription to "The Negro Farmer."

I do not see how any intelligent, loyal American of African descent can afford not to send a dollar along for such a unique journal, filling, as it does, a distinct field in a popular, yet artistic and scholarly manner.

Very sincerely yours,

LAURENCE C. JONES,

Principal Piney Woods Country Life School.

Camden, Ala., July 12, 1915.

The Negro Farmer, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.:

Dear Sirs—Inclosed you will find check for $1.00 which you will please apply to my subscription account.

As opinions are plentiful and cheap down this way—next most plentiful thing we have to advice—I thought I could hand you out, at least one; and that is this: The Negro Farmer is one of the cleanest and most readable journals we get. We feel that it is supplying a very great need and every farmer or otherwise, would do well to read it.

Yours truly,

J. M. COTTON,

Principal Canton Road Mission.

WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT

MEAT IN HOT WEATHER

A Few Simple Precautions for the Housewife Who Does Not Want Her Supplies to Spoil—Condition of Refrigerator Important

A few simple precautions will aid the housewife in keeping meat untainted in hot weather. It is, of course, common knowledge that the higher the temperature, the quicker meat will spoil, but the family's supplies are not absolutely at the mercy of the thermometer. Ice and cleanliness are two great weapons of defense.

For many families a refrigerator is obviously out of the question, but it is perhaps better to have no refrigerator at all than a neglected one. Merely to wash it out occasionally does little good; it should be thoroughly scalded at frequent intervals, in particular the drain. This, if overlooked, is apt to habor fungous growths, which may spread to the food. On one occasion a man applied to the department because he had found that a joint of beef placed in his refrigerator had turned a peculiar bright red. Upon examination it was ascertained that the meat was covered with a peculiar fungous growth due entirely to the condition of the refrigerator. Growths of this kind do not always advertise themselves so prominently, and there may be much evil in an ice box that the eye cannot detect.

If the refrigerator drain is not thoroughly cleaned, moreover, it is likely to become choked, the water is not carried off quickly enough and little pools are left standing in the interior. Dampness is one of the conditions most favorable to bacterial growth. An ice box in this state will not protect food long. It is, in fact, a wise precaution to wipe the interior of a refrigerator every day with a dry cloth.

The temperatue of the average refrigerator is higher than most persons suppose, and in those households where a regular supply of ice is not obtainable a cool cellar, a spring-house, or the depths of a well may serve somewhat the same purpose. On farms where there is an ice house the meat may be placed in some form of closed retainer and buried in the ice. In any event, the meat must be carefully screened from flies. The danger from infection from these pests has been pointed out many times, but familiarity breeds contempt and they still persist. The fly not only does the meat itself no good, but it may readily deposit upon it some infection, which is carried in turn by the meat into the human system. Some flies will deposit their eggs on the meat and these in a short time will become maggots, and the meat is "flyblown."

Much sickness that is popularly ascribed to ptomaine poisoning or to bad food in general is really caused in some such way as this, the food, in itself perfectly wholesome, acting merely as a mechanical carrier for the "germs" which cause the trouble. Some of these sorts come from the human intestine, and their presence is a sure indication that filth is present, even if the amount is too small to be seen. Filth of this kind may be carried by dust, but it more often comes from soiled hands. One might wish that every kitchen could have the sign found in some well-managed food factories—"When you leave the room for any purpose, wash your hands before you return to work."

"Germs" which grow in foods and cause illness grow very rapidly, particularly if the food is a little warm, and are not destroyed unless the food is well cooked before serving. Simply "warming up" is not enough, as was found in a case of illness recently reported after eating some warmed-up creamed vegetable. Certain kinds of food—creamed chicken, or custard, or warm vegetables, for example—are excellent culture mediums for bacteria which may have been introduced into them by accident. For this reason it is a safe rule to have as short a time as possible intervene between the preparation of food and its consumption. Broth is another excellent medium and in consequence should be drained off if it is intended to keep the meat for any length of time before serving. If the broth is used also it should be boiled thoroughly first. All food, cooked or uncooked, should be kept in a clean, cool place in order to reduce the danger of infection to a minimum.

When the meat must for any reason be kept for unusually long periods of time or when the conditions are unusually unfavorable, scalding may be resorted to advantageously. Dropping the meat into boiling water for a few minutes will not seriously affect its flavor when it ultimately appears upon the table, and it will put it in a much better condition for keeping. It is important, however, that it be dipped in a large body of boiling water. If only a small amount of water is used, the introduction of the meat will lower the temperature to such an extent that the whole process becomes worthless. With such meats as veal or pork, which are always—or ought to be—thoroughly done, the precaution can be carried further and the joints partially cooked before being stored away. Care should be taken, however, to see that the recooking is thoroughly done.

Hot weather also calls for additional precaution on the part of the housewife in regard to canned products. Once these have been opened and exposed to the air they spoil as quickly, if not more quickly, than fresh food The contents of a can should therefore be disposed of without delay. In no event should they be left in the can after it has been opened, but should be used at once unless the housekeeper wishes to "air" the canned material, which some believe is desirable. If this is done, the can contents should be transferred to a clean earthen dish and put away for an hour or two in a cool place where dust will not reach it.—Weekly News Letter, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

GIRL'S EDUCATION

Mrs. J. J. O'Connell

A girl's education is most incomplete unless she has learned:

To sew,
To cook,
To mend,
To be gentle,
To value time,
To dress neatly,
To keep a secret,
To avoid idleness,
To be self-reliant,
To darn stockings,
To respect old age,
To make good bread,
To keep a house tidy,

To be above gossiping,
To make home happy,
To control her temper,
To take care of the sick,
To take care of the baby,
To sweep down cobwebs,
To marry a man for his worth,
To read the very best of books,
To take plenty of active exercise,
To be a helpmate to her husband,
To keep clear of trashy literature,
To be light-hearted and fleet-footed,
To be a womanly woman under all circumstances.—*Southern Farming.*

FARMERS' DICTIONARY

The "Big Words" and Events Explained

TO REMOVE STAINS

How many times has mother or father had to say: "Children, don't lie down on the grass, it will stain your white clothes." Sometimes when the laundry comes home mildewed and spotted with iron rust, the whole family wonders if there is not some way to take out spots. Everybody makes spots occasionally, and everybody wants to know how to remove them.

Here are some spots removers that are suggested by Miss Emma F. Fecht, instructor in domestic art in the Kansas State Agricultural college.

Grass stain—Cotton goods; soak the stain in kerosene, and launder at once, or wash the stain in alcohol or ammonia and water. Silk or wool goods; cover stain with chloride of tin and wash at once; press dry.

Mildewed cotton or linen goods; soak the stain in one half pint of water, to which has been added one table-spoonful of lemon juice, and table-spoonful of oxalic acid, or use Javelle water aided with bleaching, or use sour buttermilk. Woolen goods; use diluted ammonia water.

Iron rust—Rub the spot with lemon juice, salt and sun-bleach it. Repeat the process if necessary. Oxalic acid may be used, if neutralized afterward with ammonia water. Wash the goods well. When using strong acids, stretch the fabric over a bowl of water, thus controlling the spread of the acid.

Blood stain—Wash the fabric in cool water until the water remains colorless, then wash it in luke warm soapy water. Hydrogen peroxide with ammonia will remove old blood stains.

Paint or varnish—Dissolve the spot with turpentine, benzine, or gasoline. Alcohol will wash away linseed oil.

Fruit stains—These should be removed as soon as possible. Stretch the fabric over a bowl and pour boiling milk or hot alcohol on the spot. Heat the alcohol over hot water.

Coffee or tea stains—Pour on the spots boiling water from a height. Glycerine is a solvent for the coloring matter.

Vaseline stains—Soak spots in kerosene before soap and water are applied. "clause" in this State.

—*Wallace's Farmer*

TABLE MANNERS

However attractive may be the table service, if there be present those who are conspicuously ill-mannered, pleasure in the meal is marred for some of those present. In no phase of our social relations may carelessness and thoughtlessness be so apt to offend as in our manners at table. This is unfortunate since to make one's presence at table agreeable does not require great knowledge, or extreme effort. It simply means being considerate of others, being sensible, and being honorable.

To drink a beverage noisily, to not express a preference when asked, to use the meal-time as an opportunity for the repeating of harmful gossip—these are but typical instances of ill-mannered conduct that could not occur if there were consideration for others, the use of common sense and adherence to a sense of honor.

If each of the rules for conduct at table so commonly given in books on etiquet, is analyzed, it will be found to have an explanation as simple as those just suggested. Such rules ore not arbitrarily arranged by over-exacting and fussy women, for the sake of making the small boy uncomfortable. They are rather reminders of the deportment that will help to make our living together more easy and agreeable. Being courteous is but the adapting of one's best self to the best selves of others. This is often more successfully accomplished through keeping one's self in the back-ground, thinking first of the comforts and conveniences of others.—News Notes, Colorado Agricultural College.

STARVE OUT THE HESSIAN FLY

The Hessian fly, being in the "flaxseed" stage in wheat stubble and in unharvested wheat from June till September, or even October in the South, can be destroyed by carrying out the following methods of control:

1. Burn, where possible and safe, all stubble and ruined wheat.
2. Disk all stubble and ruined wheat immediately after harvest, where burning is impracticable.
3. Plow under deeply all stubble and ruined wheat fields before August 15, harrow the ground, and roll if necessary.
4. Harrow, disk, pasture, or otherwise effectually destroy all volunteer wheat.
5. As a measure preparatory to sowing, plow as early and deeply as existing conditions will permit; disk, harrow, and roll until a thoroughly pulverized, compact seed bed is obtained.
6. Do not sow wheat until after fly-free date, approximately shown on accompanying map.—
7. Rotate your crop if possible.—*Weekly News Letter, United States Department of Agriculture.*

CLEAN UP THE FENCE ROWS

A trip through an Idaho farming district at this time of the year will easily convince one of the high yielding possibilities of our western soil. However, one always has a deep feeling of regret that our western farmers have not yet awoke to the realization of the amount of damage that comes from the common unsightly fence rows.

Fence rows free of thistles, mustard, wild rose bushes and other noxious weeds, are not only pleasing in appearance, but injurious crop pests dangerous plant diseases and grey ground squirrels will hesitate some time before starting housekeeping in such places.

Clean up the fence rows and see if the increased labor is not well paid for with increased returns from crops. —*The Idaho Agricultural News Letter.*

WINNERS FROM THE SOIL

Colored Heroes of the Farm

Farming Like the Germans

Success Story of Mr. Dave Nelson of Scotts, Arkansas, as told by himself to the National Negro Business League

Mr. Dave Nelson, of Scotts, Arkansas: I suppose you call on me because I first became a Life Member of this League by paying in Twenty-Five Dollars. (Laughter and applause.) I can't talk very much now; used to talk a whole lot when I was a young man, but can't do it now. (Laughter.) The way I make farming pay—I raise everything you can raise on the farm, including corn, potatoes, alfalfa, German clover, apples, plums, pears, peaches, hogs, chickens and everything in my line. I try to do as the German does and make all my ground produce something that produces money. The way I raise alfalfa, I put all my hogs on the land and let them stay on the land until I'm ready to plow it up in the fall, say about the first of September; I have a fine patch of alfalfa at home; you can plant it every month in the year that you're a mind to do, don't need to wait for a season if you know how to plant it. I know, for I've tried it. When the alfalfa is growing I let my hogs still run in it for so many hours a day, say I put them in in the morning and take them off by twelve or one o'clock and in this way I find the alfalfa helps the hogs and the nogs help the alfalfa. (Laughter.) It is the best feed in the world for hogs and cattle. I do chickens the same way; chickens love it; its good feed for all the stock on the farm and a mighty fine crop to raise. I also raise corn and sorghum. You can cut alfalfa every thirty days in the year if you've got a good season. I raise cotton, hogs, chickens, but no mules; take too much pasture for me to raise mules, although I've got some fine mules on my place for farm use. I have got along pretty well, have always saved my money and today if you took stock of me you would find I'm worth Fifty Thousand ($50,000) in money. I got no bank book with me, but can show you very quick. (Laughter and prolonged applause.)

Question: Tell us how many acres you own.

Mr. Dave Nelson: I once had four hundred (400) acres, but I'm getting old and I've been selling off some; I've got now over two hundred (200) acres of land of my own and not a dollar against it.

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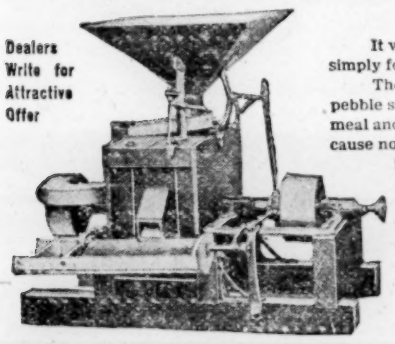

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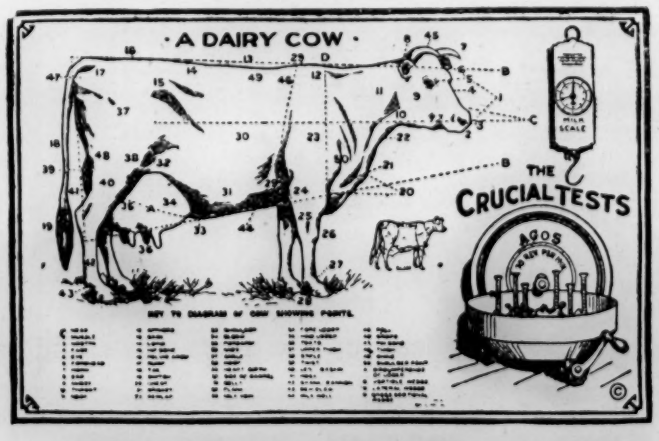

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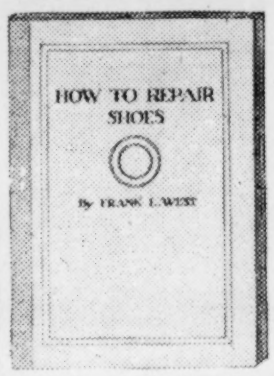

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